language in action

Merchiston Castle School 2027 Summer Programme

Welcome to Edinburgh! Our 2027 programme has been designed to ensure that you have the most enjoyable, memorable experience possible. You'll spend time exploring, learning and creating with students from all over the world, and our team of tour guides and activity leaders are there to make your summer unforgettable!

	Breakfast	Morning	Lunch	Afternoon	Dinner	Evening
THU 1	Arrival				Packed	Room allocation
FRI 2	08:00-09:00	Placement Test & Class	13:00-14:00	Student Programme Induction, Campus Tour and on Campus Activity	18:00-19:00	Welcome Party
SAT 3	08:00-09:00	Sightseeing Tour 1: Edinburgh City Centre Including Royal Mile, St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh Castle **(ticket included)** and Grassmarket **(packed lunch)**			18:00-19:00	Free Time
SUN 4	08:00-09:00	Full Day Excursion: Glasgow by coach with Glasgow Walking Tour, University Tour and Botanic Gardens **(packed lunch)**			18:00-19:00	Free Time
MON 5	08:00-09:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	13:00-14:00	Sports on Campus	18:00-19:00	Disco Night
TUE 6	08:00-09:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	13:00-14:00	Dean Village and Water of Leith Walkway	Harry Potter Ghost Tour and Old Town by Night	
WED 7	08:00-09:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	13:00-14:00	University of Edinburgh Tour	18:00-19:00	Murder Mystery
THU 8	08:00-09:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	13:00-14:00	National Museum of Scotland	18:00-19:00	Cèilidh Night
FRI 9	08:00-09:00	Highland Games on Campus	13:00-14:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	18:00-19:00	Harry Potter Watch Party
SAT 10	08:00-09:00	Full Day Excursion: Highlands Tour by coach **(packed lunch)**			18:00-19:00	Free Time
SUN 11	08:00-09:00	Full Day Excursion: Stirling by coach with Stirling Castle **(packed lunch)**			18:00-19:00	Free Time
MON 12	08:00-09:00	Sports on Campus	13:00-14:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	18:00-19:00	Campus Scavenger Hunt
TUE 13	08:00-09:00	Palace of Holyroodhouse **(ticket included)** and The Scottish Parliament	13:00-14:00	Class (from CEFR A1 to C1)	18:00-19:00	Trash Fashion Show
WED 14	08:00-09:00	Calton Hill and Shopping in St James Quarter	13:00-14:00	Class & Graduation Ceremony	18:00-19:00	White Prom Night
THU 15	08:00-09:00	Departure				

*This timetable is correct as of October 2026 and is a SAMPLE timetable. Language in Action reserve the right to amend this and, if so, an updated timetable will be dated and published that will supersede this version. Final and confirmed timetables will be published by May 2027.

Half day tours

Sports on Campus

Show off your football skills, try your hand at volleyball, or shoot for the hoop on the basketball courts of these state-of-the-art on-campus sports facilities. A range of sports across both indoor and outdoor pitches and courts are available.

Dean Village and Water of Leith Walkaway

Escape the busy city streets and discover one of Edinburgh's most picturesque hidden gems! Wander through the charming Dean Village, with its historic buildings and beautiful riverside setting, before following the peaceful Water of Leith Walkway. Keep your camera ready - this is one of Edinburgh's most photogenic walks!

University of Edinburgh Tour

Discover one of the world's most historic universities as we explore the University of Edinburgh and its surroundings. Wander through the university quarter, admire its impressive architecture and learn more about student life in the heart of Scotland's capital. A great opportunity to experience the atmosphere of one of Edinburgh's most famous institutions.

National Museum of Scotland

Step inside one of Scotland's most fascinating museums and journey through centuries of history, science, culture and discovery. From ancient Scottish treasures and incredible inventions to the natural world and cultures from across the globe, there's something new to discover around every corner!

Highland Games on Campus

Get ready for a taste of Scottish tradition with our very own Highland Games! Compete alongside your team in a series of fun challenges inspired by Scotland's famous sporting traditions. Bring your energy, determination and team spirit as you battle it out to become the LIA Highland Games champions!

Palace of Holyroodhouse and Scottish Parliament

Discover Scotland's royal and political history with a visit to the Palace of Holyroodhouse and the Scottish Parliament. Explore the magnificent royal residence at the end of Edinburgh's Royal Mile before seeing the striking modern home of the Scottish Parliament nearby — two very different sides of Scotland, just moments apart!

This excursion includes ticketed entry to the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

Calton Hill and Shopping in St James Quarter

See Edinburgh from above with a trip to beautiful Calton Hill, home to some of the city's most recognisable monuments and fantastic panoramic views. After taking in the skyline and snapping some memorable photos, head to St James Quarter for some free time to explore the shops and enjoy the buzz of central Edinburgh.





Full day tours

Edinburgh Walking Tour

We take you into the heart of Edinburgh to discover some of the city's most famous sights! Explore the historic Royal Mile, admire the magnificent St Giles' Cathedral and visit the iconic Edinburgh Castle before heading through the colourful Grassmarket. It's the perfect introduction to Scotland's capital, packed with history, incredible architecture and unforgettable views!

This excursion includes ticketed entry to Edinburgh Castle.

Glasgow Walking Tour

Discover Scotland's largest city on a full-day adventure to vibrant Glasgow! Enjoy a guided walking tour through the city centre before exploring the impressive University of Glasgow and the beautiful Botanic Gardens. With striking architecture, lively streets and plenty of Scottish culture along the way, it's a fantastic opportunity to experience another side of Scotland!

Full Day Excursion: Highlands Tour

Leave the city behind and experience the spectacular landscapes of the Scottish Highlands! Travel by coach through dramatic countryside, rolling hills and breathtaking scenery as you discover one of Scotland's most iconic regions. With plenty of opportunities for unforgettable photos – and some hairy coos - along the way, this is a true Scottish adventure!

Full Day Excursion: Stirling

Travel with us to historic Stirling, a city at the heart of some of Scotland's most dramatic stories. Explore its atmospheric streets before visiting the magnificent Stirling Castle, once home to Scottish royalty. Discover centuries of kings, queens and battles while enjoying spectacular views across the surrounding countryside!

This excursion includes ticketed entry to Stirling Castle.

Evening Activities

Edinburgh by Night: Harry Potter Ghost Tour and Old Town

See Edinburgh from above with a trip to beautiful Calton Hill, home to some of the city's most recognisable monuments and fantastic panoramic views. After taking in the skyline and snapping some memorable photos, head to St James Quarter for some free time to explore the shops and enjoy the buzz of central Edinburgh.



Campus Activities

Our programme of evening activities ensures you'll never be bored on campus! Our campus team host a wide range of events, games and parties ranging from quiz nights to karaoke. Want a chilled night watching a movie with a pizza? No problem! Perhaps you prefer to put your hands to work painting or turning trash into the latest fashion! Whatever you enjoy, we've got you covered. Your evening activities could include any of the following: Trash Fashion Show, Cèilidh Night, Harry Potter Watch Party, Karaoke, Arts & Crafts, Scavenger Hunt, Murder Mystery, Disco Night, Outdoor games.

No matter your location, you'll always get a Welcome night where you'll get to meet your fellow students, and a Last Night White Prom to end your summer on a high!

UPDATED FOR 2027